



## Amendments in Haryana Sikh Gurdwaras (Management) Act, 2014 | Haryana | 06 Aug 2024

### Why in News?

The **Haryana Council of Ministers** is set to approve an [Ordinance](#) to amend the **Haryana Sikh Gurdwaras (Management) Act, 2014**.

### Key Points

- **The objective of Haryana Sikh Gurdwaras (Management) Act, 2014** was to provide a legal procedure by which the gurdwaras were brought under the exclusive control of the **Sikhs of Haryana** for their **proper use, administration, control** and **financial management reforms**.
  - This act created a **separate juristic entity** for the management of the **historical gurdwaras** in Haryana, gurdwaras with **income both over and under ₹20 lakh**.
- **Proposed Amendments:**
  - **Judicial Appointments:** The proposed amendment includes provisions for appointing a **High Court judge** as the chairman of the Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Judicial Commission.
    - If a High Court judge is not appointed, a District Judge or a senior member of the commission will be considered.
  - **Revision of Pension / Family Pension:** The Haryana Government is also expected to deal with the issue of **revision of pension/family pension** for retired **judicial officers of the Haryana government** as per the [Second National Judicial Pay Commission \(SNJPC\)](#).

### Second National Judicial Pay Commission

- The Commission was constituted in 2017 pursuant to the order of the **Supreme Court** in **All India Judges Association case**, under [Article 32 \(Constitutional Remedies\)](#) of the Constitution.
- It is headed by **former Judge of Supreme Court Justice P. Venkatrama Reddi**.
- **Few of the objectives of the Commission are:**
  - To evolve the principles governing the pay structure and emoluments of Judicial Officers belonging to the Subordinate Judiciary all over the country.
  - To examine the present structure of emoluments and conditions of services of Judicial Officers in the States and Union Territories and to make suitable recommendations including post-retirement benefits such as pension, etc.
  - To consider and recommend such interim relief as the Commission considers just and proper to all categories of Judicial Officers.
  - To make recommendations regarding setting up of a permanent mechanism to review the pay and service conditions of members of Subordinate Judiciary periodically by an independent Commission.
- The Supreme Court observed that the Commission may consider, if necessary, sending reports on any of the matters as and when recommendations are finalised.
- The **Commission has been empowered to devise its own procedure** and formulate the modalities necessary for accomplishing the task

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## Cub Dies in Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park | Madhya Pradesh | 06 Aug 2024

### Why in News?

A **five-month-old cheetah cub**, born to the **African cheetah Gamini**, died at [Kuno National Park](#) in Madhya Pradesh.

- **Kuno National Park** now has **13 adult cheetahs** and **12 cubs remaining**.

### Key Points

- The five-month-old cheetah cub, whose health suddenly deteriorated and was found dragging its hind portion due to a fractured vertebral column, has died; **the cause of death will be confirmed after an autopsy**.
- **Kuno National Park:**
  - **Kuno National Park**, located in **Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur** district is home to several cheetahs translocated from **Namibia** and **South Africa**.
  - It is named after the **Kuno River**, one of the main tributaries of the [Chambal River](#), **which flows through the area**.

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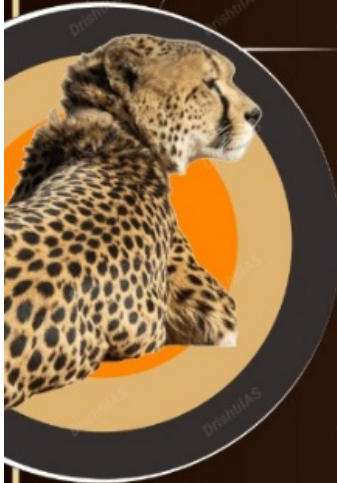


# Cheetah

**Common Name** - Cheetah

**Scientific Name** - *Acinonyx jubatus*

- *Acinonyx jubatus jubatus* (African Cheetah)
- *Acinonyx jubatus venaticus* (Asiatic Cheetah)



## Reintroduction of Cheetah to India:

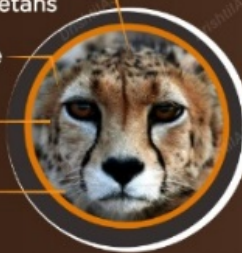
- The "Action Plan for Introduction of Cheetah in India" was released by MoEF&CC at the 19th meeting of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) (January 2022).
  - Such a plan was first proposed in 2009.
- In September 2022, eight cheetahs landed in India from Namibia.
  - The 8 cheetahs have been relocated to the Kuno-Palpur National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
- The relocation of cheetahs to India from Namibia is the world's first inter-continental large wild carnivore translocation project.

Slightly brownish and golden skin; thicker than the Asiatic Cheetahs

More prominent spots and lines on the face

Found all over the African continent

**IUCN Red List Status - Vulnerable**



## African Cheetah

Slightly smaller than the African ones.

Pale yellowish fawn coloured skin - more fur under body, belly specifically.

Found only in Iran; the country claims there are only 12 of them left. Year 1952 - Asiatic Cheetah officially declared extinct from India.

**IUCN Red List Status - Critically Endangered**



## Asiatic Cheetah



# NDRF Rescues Villagers in Jharkhand Floods | Jharkhand | 06 Aug 2024

## Why in News?

- The [National Disaster Response Force \(NDRF\)](#) rescued **26 villagers** stranded in flood waters in **Garhwa district, Jharkhand**.
  - Incessant rain over the past few days led to the flooding

## Key Points

- The villagers were trapped in the flood waters of the [Sone River](#) near **Hariharpur police outpost**.
  - The **Sone River**, also known as the **Sone River**, is a perennial river that flows through central India.
  - It is the **2<sup>nd</sup>-largest southern (right bank) tributary** of the [Ganges](#) after the [Yamuna River](#).
  - It originates near **Amarkantak Hill** in the **Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi** district of Chhattisgarh and finally merges with the Ganges River near Patna in Bihar.

## National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)

- **About:**
  - NDRF is a specialised force constituted for the purpose of specialized response to **natural and man-made disasters** in India.
  - **Formation and Purpose:** The NDRF was formed in **2006** under the [Disaster Management Act, 2005](#). Its primary purpose is to respond quickly and effectively to natural and man-made disasters.
  - **Structure:** The **NDRF** consists of battalions from the **Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs)** including the **Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)**.
    - Each battalion has specialized training and equipment for disaster response.

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# 43 Tiger Deaths in Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh | 06 Aug 2024

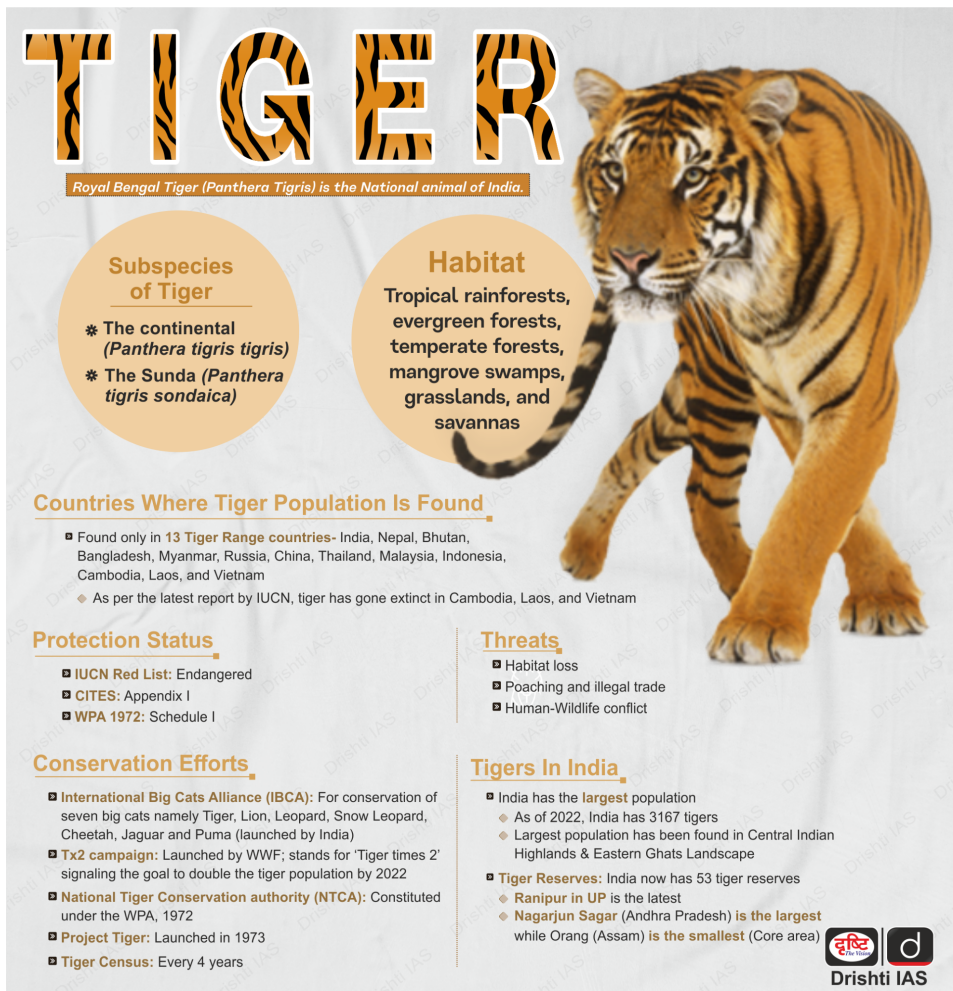
## Why in News?

- The deaths of **43 tigers** between **2021** and **2023** were investigated, with **34 deaths** in [Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve](#) and **9** in **Shahdol Forest Circle**.

## Key Points

- **Special Investigation Team (SIT) Report:** The SIT, headed by **State Tiger Strike** Force in-charge, submitted its report to the acting Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Head of the Forest Force (PCCF-HoFF) on July 15.
- **Lack of Investigation:** The report highlighted **insufficient investigation** into at least 10 tiger death cases, disinterest by higher authorities and Forest Range Officers, and missing body parts in 10 out of 34 cases.

- **Formation of SIT:** The SIT was formed on the orders of the **state's Chief Wildlife Warden** to investigate the high number of tiger deaths.



**TIGER**

Royal Bengal Tiger (*Panthera Tigris*) is the National animal of India.

**Subspecies of Tiger**

- \* The continental (*Panthera tigris tigris*)
- \* The Sunda (*Panthera tigris sondaica*)

**Habitat**

Tropical rainforests, evergreen forests, temperate forests, mangrove swamps, grasslands, and savannas

**Countries Where Tiger Population Is Found**

- Found only in 13 Tiger Range countries- India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Russia, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam
- ◆ As per the latest report by IUCN, tiger has gone extinct in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam

**Protection Status**

- IUCN Red List: Endangered
- CITES: Appendix I
- WPA 1972: Schedule I

**Conservation Efforts**

- **International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA):** For conservation of seven big cats namely Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma (launched by India)
- **Tx2 campaign:** Launched by WWF; stands for 'Tiger times 2' signaling the goal to double the tiger population by 2022
- **National Tiger Conservation authority (NTCA):** Constituted under the WPA, 1972
- **Project Tiger:** Launched in 1973
- **Tiger Census:** Every 4 years

**Threats**

- Habitat loss
- Poaching and illegal trade
- Human-Wildlife conflict

**Tigers In India**

- India has the **largest** population
  - ◆ As of 2022, India has 3167 tigers
  - ◆ Largest population has been found in Central Indian Highlands & Eastern Ghats Landscape
- **Tiger Reserves:** India now has 53 tiger reserves
  - ◆ **Ranipur in UP** is the latest
  - ◆ **Nagarjun Sagar (Andhra Pradesh)** is the largest while **Orang (Assam)** is the **smallest** (Core area)

**Drishti IAS**

## Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (BTR)

- It is located in the **Umariya district of Madhya Pradesh** and is spread over the **Vindhya hills**.
- In 1968, it was notified as a **national park** and in **1993** was declared a tiger reserve- under the **Project Tiger Network** at the neighbouring **Panpatha Sanctuary**.
- It is known for the **Royal Bengal Tigers**. The density of the tiger population at Bandhavgarh is the highest known in India as well as in the world.
  - These streams then merge into the **Son river** (an important southern tributary to the river Ganga).
- The important prey species consists of **chital, sambhar, barking deer, nilgai, chinkara, wild pig, chowsingha, langur** and **rhesus macaque**.
  - Dependent upon them are the major predators like **tiger, leopard, wild dog, wolf** and **jackal**.